IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: JAMES O. HANSEN ET AL.

Confirmation No.: 7571

Serial No. : 09/967,098

Filed

: September 28, 2001

TC/A.U.

: 1746

Examiner

Docket No.

: F-7951r (01-235)

Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above-identified application for United States patent, please amend as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 3 of this paper.